



Blackboard Overview

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Overview purpose

- Introduce and/or remind you that you have access to new dL tools --- **Blackboard** --- as part of new ALMS services suite
- Let you know that some of your colleagues are busy learning about Blackboard, and integrating the new tools into their resident, blended, and full dL courses
- Encourage you to find out more about using Blackboard with your operations



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What is Blackboard?

- A learning content management system (LCMS) that allows faculty to develop, administer, and conduct learning activities for students in an online environment
- A software “template” for online content
- Plus: discussion forums, assignments, assessments, grades, chat, multimedia
- An online community and virtual classroom
- LCMS market leader in higher education (80%)



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LCMS, LMS, ALMS?

- A learning content management system (LCMS) focuses on course development and management functions (e.g., Blackboard)
- A learning management system (LMS) includes student information system functions, such as in SABA
- Because of limitations in both Blackboard and SABA, we need to integrate to obtain best performance



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Blackboard and ALMS

- Blackboard is now a component of the Army Learning Management System (ALMS), along with SABA, Centra, Breeze, and other potential dL tools
- Blackboard has recently been certified as SCORM 2004 (version 2) compliant by ADL



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Why people “like” Blackboard

- It works (generally reliable and robust)
- Easy to use (intuitive)
- Standard look and feel
(common functions across courses/schools)
- Only need a web browser (no client)
- Reduces instructional administration tasks (e.g., grading, hand-outs)
- Many people already “know” it
- Allows for time-shifting (student/faculty convenience)



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Blackboard and the Army

- Blackboard started as disparate LLC pilots at different TRADOC Schools.
 - Ft Gordon
 - Ft Leavenworth
 - MANSCEN
- In 2006 – Army G6 effort to consolidate to single server architecture



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Enterprise Version of Blackboard

- TRADOC CIO office enables enterprise purchase and implementation of Blackboard for proponents schools (Ft. Eustis)
- New version of Blackboard (7.x) enables “domains,” allowing for virtual instances of proponent schools on single set of enterprise servers (i.e., proponent control)
- Pilot domains included ATSC, JAG, AWC
- Now includes: AMSC, NCOES, SSI, APG



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Blackboard domain branding

U.S. Army War College of Carlisle Barracks, PA
The premier institution for strategic leadership and for the study of landpower

Army Learning Courses Community Content Collection System Admin

Welcome, David

My Announcements

No system announcements have been posted.
No course announcements have been posted.
No organization announcements have been posted.

My Calendar

No calendar events have been posted in the last 7 days.

My Organizations

<https://usawc.learn.army.mil>

TJAG Legal Center and School

Army Learning Courses Community Content Collection System

Army Learning

Courses

Community

Content Collection

System

Announcements have been posted in the last 7 days.
Courses have been posted in the last 7 days.
Community have been posted in the last 7 days.

Events have been posted in the last 7 days.

<https://jag.learn.army.mil>

Army Learning

Army Learning

Army Learning

Notice

Please logon using your AKO username and password. Currently you must request an account on this server by contacting collab@monroe.army.mil with the following information:

- AKO Username
- AKO E-mail address
- Organization
- Reason for access

We are working to automate this process in the future.

Login Here

Have an account? Enter login information here and click the Login button below.

Username:

Password:

<https://www.learn.army.mil>



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Some current Blackboard courses

- USASMA – NRC-34 Course
- Warrant Officer Staff Course
- CES Foundation Course (ALMC)
- Total Army Instructor Training Course (ATSC)
- Systems Approach to Training Course (ATSC)



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Home Help Logout

AMSC Home Army Learning Courses Community Content Collection Admin

Announcements

Staff Information

Course Information

Common Core Lessons

External Links

My Grades

Blackboard Help

Course Tools

My Portfolios

Course Map

Control Panel

Quick Unenroll

Refresh

Detail View

[CAPTAIN CAREER COMMON CORE COURSE \(C5\) \(01A-C22-DL-01-07 20070131086922\)](#) > COMMON CORE LESSONS

EDIT VIEW

Common Core Lessons

Enforce company compliance with the host nation, federal state and local environmental laws and regulations

Supervise the implementation of the Army's drug abuse prevention/control program

Conduct a change of primary hand receipt holder inventor

Coordinate unit deployment readiness activities

Supervise unit personnel and administration functions

Train a company

Apply the ethical decision making process as a commander, leader or staff member

Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Search Go Links

Address: https://learn.army.mil/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=courses&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_103_1

ARMY LEARNING

Home Help Logout

MSC Home Army Learning Courses Community Content Collection Admin

Announcements

Course Information

Assignments

Student Lessons

Course Documents

Staff Information

Communication

Tools

External Links

Blackboard Manual

Tools

Communication Course Tools My Portfolios Course Map

Control Panel Quick Unenroll

TOTAL ARMY INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSE (ATSC 131 ITC TOTAL ARMY INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSE) > ANNOUNCEMENTS

[VIEW TODAY](#) [VIEW LAST 7 DAYS](#) [VIEW LAST 30 DAYS](#) [VIEW ALL](#)

March 29, 2007 - April 05, 2007

Thu, Mar 08, 2007 -- Welcome Posted by: Blackboard Administrator

Welcome to the Total Army Instructor Training Course.

My name is John Ingram and I will be your instructor for this course. I may be contacted at john.a.ingram@us.army.mil or by phone 757-878-3142 DSN 826-3142

The first thing you must do after reading your welcome page, is go to the **Course Information Tab** on the left side of this page. Here you will find the student profile sheet, further information, instructions and **Required Reading (Read-Ahead)** that must be done prior to the beginning of class.

Please fill out the Student Profile sheet and follow the instructions for returning it to me. Click on student profile once. This will give you the option of opening or saving the document. Save it to your computer anywhere you wish. After saving it to your computer, full out the document and send to me as an attachment by e-mail.

You may click on the **Course Documents Button** on the left side of this page, this will take you to your course information, Course Outline, Course Schedule and the handouts needed for this course.

General Information: Class sessions will be Monday through Friday for two weeks. Approximate class times are from 0900 to 1700.

Powered by Blackboard Trusted sites 8:38 AM

start C:\Documents and Se... 8:38 AM



(Army) Reasons to Use Blackboard

- Rapid course development and real-time course changes/updates
- Ability to create more blended learning opportunities for students
- Ability to model the educational technology skills and behaviors expected of students
- Flexible course development & management, i.e., to suit needs of multiple audiences



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How could a school use it?

- May choose to use only a few, some, or all tools within Blackboard
- Requires re-thinking how a course will be packaged and delivered to students, i.e.,
 - Web-presence course (*classroom primary*)
 - e.g., syllabus & faculty contact info
 - Web-enhanced course (*mostly classroom*)
 - e.g., +course documents, some e-mail
 - Web-centric course (*classroom secondary*)
 - e.g., +course resources, other communication
 - Full web course (*all the above - no classroom*



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Enterprise server(s) location

- <https://learn.army.mil> (production server)
- <https://learn.eustis.army.mil>
(this is the Blackboard development server)
- Access using AKO username and password
- Click on login button
- “Welcome” screen with tabs & modules
- (Probably, no courses in “My Courses” module, if first access or use of Blackboard)



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Accounts creation process

- User authentication via AKO (LDAP), user account is created automatically upon login
- Request “course” and user enrollments thru system or domain administrator
- Course creation process in Blackboard (course_ID) includes exact match to ATRRS course number, if ATRRS course
- Non-ATRRS courses may also be created



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Blackboard “Basics” Training

How to:

- navigate in Blackboard
- use the control panel
- develop & post content
- manage communication
- develop, post, and record assessments
- get help



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Blackboard navigation

- Common look and feel to courses, as well as course navigation tools
- Primarily, “point and click” navigation
- Menu buttons, tabs, bread crumb trail, action buttons (e.g., “submit” “+item”)
- Moving around inside Blackboard is fairly intuitive



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Blackboard control panel

- Control panel is the primary place for adding content, changing content, planning course design, controlling course activities, developing assessments, etc.
- Only the instructor role “sees” the control panel link --- students do not see it and cannot access the control panel
- Knowing how to use tools in control panel is goal of instructor/developer training



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Posting content

- Posting content is also “point and click”
- Many different file types and sizes are possible inside Blackboard, e.g., .doc, .pdf, .ppt, .xls, .rtf, .swf, .jpg, .mpeg, etc.
- However, students must have appropriate software (or readers) installed on their workstations in order to view content in Bb
- Must be mindful of download capabilities (file sizes) at student location



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Communication Options

- Key to effective online or blended instruction is degree of instructor/student communication (i.e., higher education model)
- Many *different* tools in Blackboard for **instructor to student(s) & student to student(s)** communication:
 - Announcements
 - E-mail and “messages”
 - Discussion board
 - Whiteboard and chat (collaboration tools)
 - Group pages



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Assessment Tools

- Blackboard provides the instructor with many assessment tools, including:
 - Test / survey manager
 - Pool manager
 - Gradebook
 - Course statistics
 - Performance dashboard
 - (Assignments)



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How to get help

- Army Training Help Desk (ATHD) (via email, web, or telephone)
- BB system/domain administrators
- Online student & faculty manuals within Blackboard
- ATSC training opportunities thru HPI-C (e.g., MTT's, Blackboard Familiarization Course)
- Blackboard web site tutorials:
<http://www.blackboard.com/quicktutorials>



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Blackboard training available

- Mobile training teams with staff from ATSC and TRADOC CIO Office
- One-day Blackboard “basics” training, plus Breeze overview and demo
- Training conducted at USASMA, SSI, DLI
POC: Scott Langhorst – ATSC HPI-C, 757-878-5363
- Blackboard Familiarization Training also available online (POC: Scott Langhorst - ATSC)



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On the horizon...

- More “domains” for enterprise operations
- More use of “Content System” within Blackboard for sharing learning objects and modules across courses and across schools
- CAC enabled log-in
- ATRRS integration for enrollments and completions



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Questions? Comments?

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Thanks for coming!



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ARMY LEARNING

atsc TSS
Army Training Support Center Training Support System



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